

Message Text

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44

ACTION STR-04

INFO OCT-01 IO-11 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03

LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01

AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 /132 W

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P 151901Z MAR 76

FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1265

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ACTION STR

H PASS CODEL

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD MTN

SUBJECT: DIRECTOR GENERAL LONG'S VIEWS ON TARIFF FORMULA
AND OTHER MTN ISSUES

1. AMB WALKER HOSTED LUNCH MARCH 15 FOR DIRECTOR
GENERAL OLIVIER LONG AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL GARDNER
PATTERSON TO PREVIEW US TARIFF FORMULA PROPOSAL AND TO REVIEW
OTHER MTN ISSUES. BALE AND MCNAMARA ALSO PARTICIPATED.

2. IN RESPONSE TO WALKER'S PRESENTATION OF US TARIFF
FORMULA PROPOSAL ALONG LINES OF INSTRUCTIONS, BOTH LONG
AND PATTERSON SAID US WILL HAVE SOME DIFFICULTY CONVINCING
OTHER COUNTRIES OF SIGNIFICANCE OF HARMONIZATION ELEMENT
IN US PROPOSAL. THEY SUGGESTED THAT US BE PREPARED
IN TARIFFS GROUP NEXT WEEK TO MAKE CONVINCING ARGUMENT
THAT, DESPITE FACT THAT US PROPOSAL BECOMES A STRAIGHT
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LINEAR FORMULA FOR TARIFFS BEYOND 6.67 PERCENT AD

VALOREM, PROPOSAL HAS A MAJOR HARMONIZATION ELEMENT ACROSS THE FULL RANGE OF TARIFF RATES. LONG SPECIFICALLY SUGGESTED THAT WE SHOULD UNDERLINE TO THE PRESS AS WELL AS TO OTHER DELS THE SIGNIFICANCE US ATTACHES TO HARMONIZATION. IN THE ABSENCE OF WIDESPREAD COMPREHENSION OF NEW STEP WHICH THE US PROPOSAL REPRESENTS, HE FEARED THAT OTHER DELS MIGHT DISMISS IT TOO QUICKLY.

3. NOTING THAT US PROPOSAL WOULD BE APPLICABLE TO TARIFFS ON ALL PRODUCTS, THEY BOTH EXPRESSED HOPE THAT AGRICULTURE ISSUE NOT BE ALLOWED TO BLOW UP AS A MAJOR ISSUE BETWEEN US AND EC NEXT WEEK. WALKER RESPONDED THAT HE EXPECTED THE US AND EC BOTH TO STATE THEIR WELL-KNOWN POSITIONS ON THIS QUESTION, BUT THAT NEITHER SIDE WANTED TO START A FIGHT ON THE MATTER AT THIS MEETING, SO DIFFERENCES SHOULD NOT DISRUPT THE WORK OF THE TARIFFS GROUP.

4. PATTERSON, WHO CHAIRS TARIFFS GROUP, SAID THAT HE BELIEVES THE ENTIRE FOCUS OF THE MEETING WILL BE ON THE US PROPOSAL. HIS SOUNDINGS WITH OTHER DELEGATIONS SUGGEST THAT THEY WILL NOT BE PUTTING FORWARD ANY NEW PROPOSALS, BUT PERHAPS ONLY REFINE PREVIOUS PROPOSALS. HE EXPECTED THAT GROUP WOULD WANT TO RECESS FOR DAY AFTER US PROPOSAL IS MADE TO PROVIDE DELEGATIONS TIME TO REACT. HE RECOGNIZED, HOWEVER, THAT BILATERALS WHICH US IS HOLDING WITH KEY DELEGATIONS THIS WEEK MAY PERMIT THEM TO RESPOND IN A MORE STUDIED WAY TO THE US PROPOSAL NEXT WEEK.

5. BOTH LONG AND PATTERSON URGED THAT US STRESS BENEFITS OF ITS PROPOSAL FOR LDCS AND THAT US DO WHATEVER IT CAN TO INDICATE THAT US PAID VERY CAREFUL ATTENTION TO AND WAS SYMPATHETIC TO MANY OF POINTS WHICH LDCS HAVE MADE IN THE PAST ABOUT TARIFF NEGOTIATING PLAN.

6. ON TROPICAL PRODUCTS, LONG NOTED GREAT UNHAPPINESS ON PART OF GROUP OF 77 WITH UNSTATED DEPTH OF CUT IN US TROPICAL PRODUCTS OFFERS AND US DESIRE FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RECIPROCITY FROM LDCS. HE SAID LDCS FEEL THEY ARE BEING PICKED OFF INDIVIDUALLY THROUGH BILATERAL APPROACH IN TROPICAL PRODUCTS GROUP, THUS DENYING TO THEM THEIR UNITY AND STRENGTH AS A GROUP. LONG URGED THAT US SCHEDULE A "GROUP THERAPY" MEETING WITH ALL LDCS WHO HAD SUBMITTED TROPICAL PRODUCTS REQUESTS TO US IN ORDER TO DEMONSTRATE THAT US WAS WILLING TO TREAT LDCS AS A GROUP IN THE MTN. WALKER RESPONDED THAT HE COULD SEE

LITTLE VALUE IN SUCH A GROUP MEETING AND THAT HE WAS
NOT PERSUADED BY LONG'S SUGGESTION.

7. NOTING THAT US HAD REQUESTED GATT ART XXIII:1
CONSULTATIONS WITH EC ON ITS
MEASURES TO INCREASE USE OF NONFAT DRIED MILK WITHIN
THE COMMUNITY AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR OTHER PROTEINS,
INCLUDING SOYBEANS, PATTERSON ASKED WHETHER US SAW
VALUE IN EC'S PLAN TO PURCHASE AND STORE OTHER PROTEINS.
WALKER RESPONDED THAT STORAGE PLAN WOULD NOT ALLEVIATE
IN ANY SIGNIFICANT WAY DAMAGE WHICH EC ACTION WOULD HAVE
ON US SOYBEAN AND OTHER VEGETABLE PROTEINS. WALKER

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Draft Date: 15 MAR 1976
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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